

TOCH JOURNAL



PRESENTING NEWS, VIEWS AND IDEAS



**PUBLISHED BY TOCH AT FORTY-SEVEN
FRANCIS STREET • LONDON • S.W. 1**



"THE DARK AND THE LIGHT"

**A Nativity Play by the Rev. John Durham
will be presented in**

ALL HALLOWS-BY-THE-TOWER

on

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19 at 7.30 p.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20, at 5 p.m.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21, at 5.30 p.m.

Diaries & Christmas Cards

Supplies of the 1959 edition of the Toc H Diary are now available, price 4s., or fitted with pencil 4s. 6d. Details of this year's Christmas Card designs are given on page 404 of this issue. Please send in your order without delay, as supplies are limited.

Advertisements

Manufacturers of a wide range of articles of interest to our readers will find the JOURNAL pages very helpful in making their goods and services known. Enquiries should be sent to Stan Waters, who handles our advertising, at Messrs. Arthur H. Wheeler & Co., St. Stephen's House, Victoria Embankment, London, S.W.1.

Ourselves

The TOC H JOURNAL is published monthly, eleven times a year. The April issue is a double number and there is no August number. A subscription can commence with any issue and costs only 9s. for a complete year.

N.B.—A price concession to 7s. 6d. per dozen, post free, is made to all Branches ordering a minimum of one dozen copies.

THIRTY-SIXTH YEAR OF PUBLICATION

TOC H JOURNAL



NOVEMBER 1958

Letters and articles are welcomed and are
printed as individual points of view only

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COVER PICTURE: Members of Bristol and West Welfare Unit loading equipment into a car. Founded by Toc H, the Unit now has almost one hundred people helping to run this service to the housebound and bed-ridden folk of Bristol.

Reproduced by courtesy of the Bristol Evening Post.

EDITORIAL OFFICE · TOC H, 47 FRANCIS ST
LONDON SW1 · TELEPHONE VICTORIA 0354



In and Out

notes and comment

Scouting and Toc H

FROM THE MOVEMENT'S earliest days there has always been a close link with Scouting and recent discussions between the Boy Scouts Association and

Toc H have brought out a number of suggestions as to how the present link may be further strengthened through local co-operation. The following points are 'lifted' from a letter sent out by the Chief Executive Officer of the Boy Scouts Association to all their Commissioners and County Secretaries:

1. The need for local Toc H officers to be aware of Scout needs, not only for Scouters but also for Instructors and lay helpers.
2. Toc H speakers might be invited to speak at County or District Conferences.
3. Toc H members to be encouraged to visit Scout Groups, in order to see Scouting in action.
4. Toc H Branches to be advised of Explanatory Courses to be held in the neighbourhood, and invitations to be extended to their members to attend.
5. Senior Scouts and Rovers might join, more often than at present, with Toc H members in jobs of service.
6. Rovers approaching the leaving age might be put into touch with the local Toc H Branch, in case they might wish to join it.

The Commissioners are also asked to make contact where this has not already been done, with their opposite numbers in Toc H, and the letter adds that it will be obvious that mutual friendship will produce the best results.

With this 'inside information' in their possession, many Toc H Branches may well think it a good idea to borrow the Boy Scouts' own motto as well and 'Be Prepared'.

Welcome Reprint

A WELL-INFORMED ARTICLE ON THE FOUNDER Padre and Toc H in the October number of *The Readers' Digest* attracted widespread interest. This is hardly surprising, for it is estimated that this popular monthly magazine has not less than seven million readers, and is also printed in a number of other languages. Thanks to the kind co-operation of its Editor, arrangement has been made for the article to be reprinted as a four-page pamphlet and copies should shortly be available to Branches.

TOC H JOURNAL

'Helping Hand'

STRUCK BY THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE CRIPPLED BY acute arthritis and similar disabilities, for whom the floor or even other parts of their bed are out of reach, a retired regular soldier, Brigadier R. L. Hutchins, set out to produce a light weight pick-up that would give them that necessary extra reach. Designed on a scientific basis, he has called his invention "The Helping Hand" and recently in London gave a convincing demonstration of its easy one-hand operation in gripping, gently but firmly, books, spectacles, coins and even pins, also using it to draw curtains. This invention represents a big advance on any previous lazy-tongs aids and has already brought a measure of independence and consequent happiness to many invalids.

'People to People'

AMONG ACCOUNTS THAT HAVE REACHED US OF activities during the recent "People to People" Week, a particularly interesting one concerns a village unit at Melbourne, near Pocklington, that only became a recognised Toc H group in August. A mile from their village is a cluster of Nissen huts forming an agricultural camp and many of the land workers who live in them are foreign university students who have come to Britain to improve their English. At the start of the Week, eight Melbourne members, together with two from Pocklington and two from York, paid a call at the camp and spent an evening with men and women from Germany, Spain, Yugoslavia, Austria, Italy, Somaliland and New Zealand. Of the twenty-five campers thus met, only three had ever been inside an English home. Melbourne members have now remedied the position.

Flanders Flash-back

WE CAME UPON A REFERENCE TO POPERINGE IN the early days of World War I, when reading *Leader of the Few*, Basil Collier's biography of Air Chief Marshal Lord Dowding. At that time, Lord Dowding was a junior officer, serving as an observer with No. 6. Squadron of the Royal Flying Corps, and the account reads:

"Next day they were told to fly to Ypres and come down at a small landing-ground called Saint Jean, unless the enemy was too active in that neighbourhood, when they were to land at Poperinge. The strangeness of this order lay, not only in the wide field which it opened to misunderstanding, but also in the absence of any landing-ground at Poperinge. The outcome was that six members of the Squadron landed at Saint Jean and spent the night without protection in the midst of retreating Uhlans, who seemed more frightened than they were. The rest came down between the apple trees of an orchard at Poperinge. There the whole unit ultimately assembled. They found quarters in the local estaminet, which they shared with some extremely smelly pigeons."



The thatched rondavel on the Toc H T.B. Settlement at Botha's Hill where the World Chain of Light will be started and the twenty-four hour Vigil maintained.

A Lamp will be Lit

EDDIE LAWSON

A LAMP WILL BE LIT at Botha's Hill in Natal to commence the World Chain of Light on December 11 this year. Don McKenzie told us this last month in his moving little story of the settlement.

And in the twenty-four hours that follow, Vigil will be kept beside the Lamp until the Light has circled the globe and is returned. A proud Lamp this. Proud even among the host of honoured Lamps of Toc H; for this is the Lamp of the Westfort Branch of Toc H, dedicated to that great martyr to the cause of lepers, Father Damien; symbol of courage and faith and glorious fulfilled hope.

For twenty years the Light of this Lamp shone over Westfort; for twenty years the members of the Branch, themselves stricken with this fearful thing called leprosy, served well their fellow patients in the Institute near Pretoria; served all, the Black, the White and the Coloured.

They served in the days when there was no hope; and they continued to serve when, after the coming of the miracle of cure, men and women in ever growing numbers travelled down the avenue that leads to the gates of the place, whole and clean and free to come and go as they would. Until there came the time when the few men left handed back their Lamp for safe keeping so that its proud heritage should not be lost; and where more fitting that it should be enshrined than Botha's Hill!

This is the Lamp that will give you the Light this year. Remember it when you take that Light; remember that for which it stands—the courage and faith and glorious promise of hope that it now brings to Botha's Hill.

And remember the men who lit that Lamp and kept its Light bright in the twenty years that have gone. I give you for special remembrance two of the Elder Brethren to whom this Lamp meant much. By the law of this land of South Africa I am not permitted to give you their real names. and so I use the names I gave to them in the book *No More Unclean!** But do the names matter if I give you the men?

I give you Piet, leader of his people for nine courageous years; great-hearted in all his suffering, truly he loved his neighbour as himself. And I give you Koos, without a doubt the greatest man I have known. Koos who, in all his years of patient suffering, no man once heard complain.

With proud thanksgiving remember them and praise God that such men could be!

* Eddie Lawson is the author of *No More Unclean!* a true story about Westfort, published in 1957 by Peter Davies Ltd., 16s.

1958 Supplement to the British Transport Film Catalogue

now available

listing a number of recently completed films. If you wish to receive a copy, you should send a postcard to Edgar Anstey, Films Officer, British Transport Commission 25 Savile Row London W1

'A. & M.'

REG. STEVENS

TRY TO IMAGINE YOURSELF as a young person attending your first Toc H meeting. A friend of yours at work has been asking you to go for some time and eventually you've submitted to his request. (My apologies for the black picture which is to follow!) On arriving with this friend it appears that you're amongst a bunch of old men—some of whom seem quite ga-ga. You have been warned beforehand that "You'll find most of the people there a little older than yourself; but I'm sure that you'll feel at home." 'Most of them'—there is not a single person there of your own age or anything approaching it. And as for feeling 'at home', you might just as well be at a Darby & Joan's for all the notice that is taken of you!

What did they expect you to be like? Sky-blue jeans, check shirt, cropped hair and thick rubber-soled brown suede shoes? What were they like at your age? It would be hard to imagine them doing the Charleston! Gay parties and Oxford Bags? Perhaps not all of them spent their younger days that way, wearing ridiculous clothes and making fools of themselves on the dance floor—but not all of them could be 'innocent'.

Branch meeting

The meeting commences. In a manner neither formal nor informal, the business proceeds in a rather boring manner enlivened only by a rather pathetic incident concerning a Charities Fête during the discussion of which it is decided that nothing in the way of practical help could be given this year owing to the fact that two of 'the men who could spare the time for that sort of thing' wouldn't be available. The one thing that might have been of real live interest to you as the young visitor has been dropped through pure pessimism!

Business eventually comes to a close and you are condescendingly presented with a cup of tea and a bun, and thereafter left to your thoughts while the Branch falls into its little cliques to discuss gardening and the weather. You then have the embarrassing experience of witnessing something of which you know absolutely nothing about—the Ceremony of Light, which no-one has thought to explain to you!

With that sort of introduction to Toc H, I ask you this question—would you go again? Would a young man who has anything in him worth having go again? I admit that I have painted the picture in a pretty bad setting but how would you tackle it? What is the average age in your Branch—and furthermore, what is the age range? As a whole what does your Branch think of the younger generation? Have you any good contacts with young people? Are any of your members Scoutmasters, Youth Organisers, or Probation Officers? If not, then I think it time that there were. If a Branch is to have a good mixture then there should be at least one member of it in the social field.

From a survey of jobs of about one-fifth of the Branches throughout this country, 27 per cent. of our jobs are connected with old people, 18 per cent. with hospitals and *less than 7* per cent. on youth work (including Scouts, Boys' Clubs and Youth Clubs). No wonder that we are out of touch! We spend four times as much time on old people as we do on the young; is it any wonder that we tend to become old and grey? Helping the old is not a thing to be despised and it is an excellent job that Toc H is doing in this field. But the older generation will not mould the future of this country, it is the younger generation that you have to look to for this.

Concerning 'Youth'

Today the word 'Youth' symbolises to many: Teddy Boys, delinquency and general hooliganism. We are reputed to be an irresponsible collection of mad idiots who will never in this world find among our ranks any fit to run this country. Your fathers said the same of you—so what? It is to be admitted that our outlet of surplus energy takes a different form—a more dangerous form. I think it is fair to say that we have more surplus energy to get rid of and potted entertainment is an insufficient medium for pent-up feelings. In these post-war years everything is done for us; one doesn't have to think so much with TV, talking films, etc. And so this modern younger generation differs from that of old, in that instead of releasing pent-up feelings through a medium of general gaiety, we find it insufficient and turn outward to other things. Since there is little opportunity for constructive work we tend to be destructive. Right from the start playgrounds are built for us—all we can do is play in them. When I first came from London to live in a provincial town there

was a wonderful large park just outside the town—practically unkept. Now it is a mass of slides and swings and its former attraction has gone.

It must not be forgotten that the people of my generation were born just before and during the war. Thousands of families were disrupted all over the country. Materially this country has recovered from the setback of the last World War but the moral code and social set-up has changed completely from thirty years ago. The younger generation has had to grow up in this changing scene and one cannot wonder at the fact that juvenile delinquency is on the increase.

Responsibility

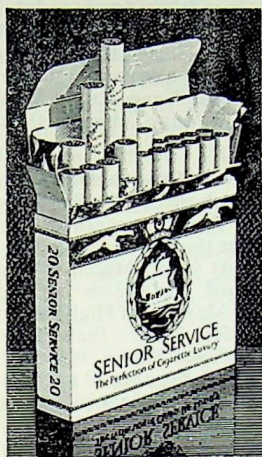
However, the picture is not nearly so black as it seems. There appears to be a growing realisation in young people of the responsibilities which life entails. The churches are finding out rapidly just how much we are capable of. Holiday working camps are becoming a popular thing. More and more young people are travelling abroad—without the aid of travel agents, etc. If the right attitude is shown the latent energy can be put to good use—even in the 'hardened' Teddy Boy!

Treat us as individuals, treat us as responsible beings, treat us as equals. If a job is to be done, then nine times out of ten we could do it just as well as anyone—if not better! (Young people are less pessimistic.) A far greater proportion of young people than is thought can carry on an intelligent conversation—we do think about modern world affairs, politics, religion, racial discord etc. These issues are our concern—after all we will be on this earth longer than you!

How then are Branches to bridge the gap? I have stated that a Branch should have in its ranks someone who has contact with young people. But that in itself is not enough. The only permanent and lasting way of reaching a cross section in age is by 'stepping stones'. In many Branches the majority of the members are in the forties and fifties brackets. It is therefore up to those now in their forties to try and get men in their thirties to join them, these in turn will bring along those in their twenties. It may take years to gain a cross-section in age as well as in religion, social class, vocation etc., but the completed task makes a true mixture. I think that should be the primary aim of any Branch which finds that it has an age gap.

But in trying to reach the younger generation the important thing to be borne in mind is that any young person wishes to feel that he counts as somebody and is not just something with the label of 'Youth'. Treat a young person as an equal and you will get results, treat him as a problem and you will only find yourself further from him.

I have tried to outline some of the ground that has to be thought over when considering the young person today. Much of what I have said you may disagree with, but I hope that you will feel that some of what has been said is relevant to the present situation and that it has helped the older member of Toc H to see some of the attitudes of the younger person. The time is ripe and the field open. How are we going to get that young scamp down the road?—I leave it to you!



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Multum in Parvo much in little

✽ DON MCKENZIE, Warden of the Toc H T.B. Settlement, Botha's Hill, Natal, has been appointed Hon. Commissioner of Toc H in South Africa for the next three years in succession to ALAN PATON, who was unable to accept re-appointment. The movement is grateful to Alan for his nine years of unsparing leadership.

✽ ALEC CHURCHER will complete his tour as the guest of Toc H in South Africa and sail from Cape Town at the end of November.

✽ JOHN F. JANS, lately Tubby's A.D.C., is now attached to the home staff for training with a view to his doing full-time work in Toc H, Australia, on his return there in a year's time.

✽ E. G. PITKIN (Rayleigh Branch) has been appointed to succeed TOM CAMERON as Pilot (part-time) in South Essex.

✽ THE WORLD CHAIN OF LIGHT: At 9 p.m. by local time for Branches west of Natal, South Africa (including the U.K.) to the Pacific on Thursday, December 11; and from New Zealand westward to Natal on December 12. Three copies (3s. 6d. post free) of *The Theme of the Vigil*, with supplement, are recommended for use by Branches at all local observances.

✽ POSTAGE STAMPS: To help the Family Purse, it costs no more to send gifts of used stamps from all countries (British, only fourpenny and over) to Canada than to Edgware, Middlesex. CHARLES WAKE, Hon. Secretary of the Toc H Stamp Club, is now at 475 Roxborough Avenue, Rockliffe, Ottawa, Canada.

✽ KEYNOTES FOR 1959-1960: This November is the time when Branches can well start giving one evening a month to 'recaps' of the monthly talks since July, and to the Keynote plans and projects when they have obtained an adequate number of copies of *Keynotes for Keymen* and have chosen their Keymen.

✽ KEYNOTE CONFERENCES: The Keymen chosen by the Branches in the Areas concerned can now time their preparations for these next year: March 6-8 at Elfinsward, Haywards Heath, Sussex; May 1-3 at High Leigh, Hoddesdon, Herts; June 12-14 at The Manor House, Bewdley, Worcs.; September 11-13 at Askham Bryan, York; September 25-27 at Derby Hall, Mossley Hill, Liverpool; October 9-11 at The Hayes, Swanwick, Derbyshire; October 30-November 1 at Gilsland, near Carlisle, Cumberland.



4

Picking the Projects

THIS IS THE MONTH when the Branch can well start giving as much as the best part of one evening a month to 'Keynotes'. Once the two Keymen have been chosen and have got cracking, there should be no lack of material.

The Keynote Projects are set out in full in the booklet, *Keynotes for Keymen, 1959-1960*. Branches in some parts of the country have got away to a quick start by working on advance copies of the booklet. This was because their selected Keymen have the first part of the operation to get through before next March, May and June, when there are early Keynote Conferences for them to attend. All other Branches have a better chance of tackling the first part between now and the autumn of 1959 or later. The time for them to start is *now*.

First, then, every Branch's job was to pick their two Keymen. The second is to select the two Projects. There are twelve of them and it will be best if the Keymen have first go and make their own choice. Then they can tell the Branch *which* they are—and *why*.

If the Branch as a whole disagree and tell the Keymen why, it may be for one of the following reasons (which they will know about in advance if they have heard this).

Some Branches (not ours, of course!) may claim that they already know all there is to know about the Projects and have done all there is to be done. Once they are on the scent, Keymen may become more and more fascinated by local discoveries and the Branch excited by some surprising new contacts. What seems obvious to the casual observer may be quite different from what soon becomes apparent to the Keyman who delves into a problem and gets to the heart of it.

Other Branches (including ours perhaps) are miles from being self-satisfied and yet may fall for another temptation. What's more natural than a Branch, which happens to have

been doing a good job along one line, picking the Project that covers it? It would give our Keymen so much to talk about! This is just where the Branch should stick to its guns, keep that job going and make a better job of it, but strike out on a new line as well. It is easy to get lop-sided and to lose or put off men whose poison is another man's meat! If a Branch is to justify its expectations, it may be needing to see in what new directions it ought to strike out, so as to preserve its balance and too so as to increase its strength. Balance calls for mixture and pioneering produces power.

New and most needed

So one way will be for the Keymen first to eliminate the Projects that are already familiar or do not strike them as priority needs in their own Branch and community. Then they can look at those which touch on *what really does most need to be done*. And this all the year round, not at a single event. If one Project they pick upon concerns the members' make-up or way of living, let the other be one that calls for wider interest and outward-looking plans. If one looks a bit theoretical, let the other be strictly practical. If one seems nice, let the other have spice.

Where a modest Branch finds three or four Projects it ought to tackle, then by all means—but not all at once. Better to concentrate on two in two years. Eventually there may be no harm in trying all twelve, unlike the schoolmaster-parson who, after repeating the Ten Commandments, absent-mindedly told his congregation that not more than five of these need be attempted.

One of the first choices may give insufficient scope to the available manpower or, conversely, may be beyond its strength. Whichever the shortage is, it is one to be put right. When the ground has been surveyed, the need may be found to be greater or less than was thought, much more slowly or quickly to be met than expected. Adjustments can be made within the two years.

First, however, let *the best possible choice* of the two Projects be made and then let the Branch stick to them. On these two the Keymen will be together concentrating their work and their lead, planning, observing, searching, studying, discovering, talking, consulting, listening. On these they will be comparing notes with other Keymen at the Keynote Conferences. On these they will be continuing until they have achieved much more practical effect.

It was a knight who persevered in discovery, Sir Francis Drake, who prayed thus: 'O Lord God, when Thou givest to Thy servants to endeavour any great matter, grant us also to know that it is not the beginning but the continuing of the same, until it be thoroughly finished, which yieldeth the true glory'.

Next month: COMMENTS ON KEYNOTES.

N.B. Copies of *Keynotes for Keymen* can be obtained from Toc H, 47 Francis Street, London, S.W.1. Ninepence each, or four shillings for six, postage free.



Harrogate Herald

TOYS FOR CHRISTMAS

From a Yorkshire newspaper comes this picture of R. J. Eves, a member of Harrogate Branch, repairing and painting toys in preparation for their distribution to underprivileged youngsters.

The Suffering Servant

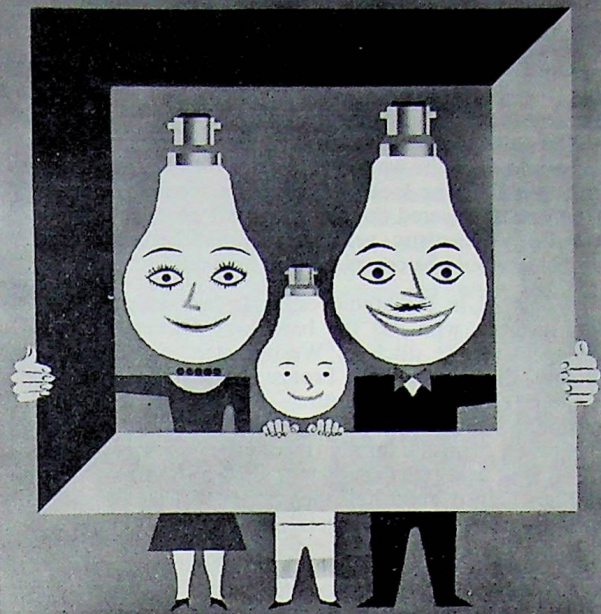
BARCLAY BARON

HOW MANY of the pictures by those we call the Old Masters concern themselves with sacred subjects! If the Bible and the doctrines of the Church have provided an inexhaustible treasury for artists the variety of their interpretation is infinite: no century repeats the one before it, no two artists think and paint the same.

A very interesting new book which brings this out clearly, in untechnical language, is called *Rembrandt and the Gospel* (S.C.M. Press, 25s.). Its writer is W. A. Visser 't Hooft, who is General Secretary of the World Council of Churches: like Rembrandt himself, he is a Dutchman. Rembrandt's own story can be traced in the many portraits he painted of himself—from the gay beginning with a feather in his hat, a wine glass in his hand and his young wife on his knee to the tragic end, a lonely, bankrupt man who died, prematurely old, at sixty-three. As time dealt thus hardly with him his understanding of the Gospel deepened. He must have read it over and over, for the two inventories of his worldly possessions which survive, one made when he went bankrupt, the other when he died, list only one book—"an old Bible".

Rembrandt was a member, not always in good standing, of the Reformed Church in Holland, but it was the Bible itself and not the dogmas and legends that any Church had built round it which was his constant theme. One result is that the picture he gives us in numberless paintings, etchings and drawings of Our Lord and his mother is poles apart from that, for instance, of the great Italian painters. He never, like them, sees Christ with the saints in glory or Mary as the Queen of Heaven. He shows us "the suffering Servant", unlovely in face and form yet dominating every situation. God come down in compassion and authority among men, and Mary a plain peasant woman, worn with the foreboding of great grief to come. By his supreme art he clothes this conception of the truth in wonderful majesty which is his undying gift to us all.

JEAN
CARLU



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Joe's Job

CECIL THOMAS

HE CERTAINLY FILLED IT, for there was eighteen stone of him; but what he did would have puzzled a guessing panel. Those massive hands, the homespun tweed, the modest assurance that gave others confidence and him power; one would guess he was something to do with the open air and agriculture, for he looked like a man from the country. But when one discovered there was an end product to his job and that that was artistic, yet he disclaimed being an artist, then confusion would be complete, and he would score.

He started in the studio of a famous sculptor, Sir Hamo Thorneycroft, who did the bronze of Oliver Cromwell that looks out of the ditch at Westminster. Sir Hamo's father, Thomas, did the Boadicea bronze on Westminster Bridge near by and he employed Joe's father—what a tradition—Joe helped Hardiman build the great Haig equestrian bronze in Whitehall, so between them the family (there is yet another member now retired who cast relief maps modelled by sculptors during the war) has helped build half the statues of London; a family of sculptors' assistants.

With tons of clay, stone and bronze, going in and out of the studio, heavy armatures to be constructed of heavy timber and iron (a sort of skeleton on which the big clay figures are modelled) with hundredweights of clay to be prepared and padded on to precision measurements, this was just a part of Joe's job: one just suited to that herculean frame and powerful hands. Add to this a real love of the work and a sense of honour in all the ordinary things of life, which dominated everything he did, and you get a picture of how Joe did his job—of assisting sculptors.

With hammer and chisel, great blocks of stone would change their shape, all governed by the models created by the artist and the measuring instruments that make accurate copying of a model possible in skilled hands. Do you say a sculptor should do all the work himself and not rely on an assistant with a measuring machine to help? Joe would have said that was all boloney and it was the final result that mattered. Many skilled

hands and brains have helped the sculptors in their production, and Joe was not the least of them.

Like many others he did a Toc H job before Toc H was born, for he was brought up to help the helpless, and as a young man regularly wheeled invalids in their chairs. But what amazes me is that he could go through the hell of 1914–1918 War serving in the Army Service Corps, as a driver and mechanic, without swearing, as a total abstainer and non-smoker. He retained the respect and affection of all. If you knew him really well he might shyly confess he could not understand why men did these things. No doubt that powerful right arm commanded respect, for though I never saw a ripple on his calm surface, it was more than a rumour that it had been used in good causes and that bullies became careful.



'Joe' (James Nixon Smith) at work on the Croke Tomb with Tubby looking-on.

Why am I telling you all this about Joe? It is because his last job, alas unfinished, was to remake the beautiful, but terribly shattered, monument to Benalius for the Guild Church of Toc H. Like All Hallows in ruins it was a heart breaking sight. He leaves it half done, but with the way to finish it shown clear. With the shattered Croke Tomb now restored

—the shrine in which stands the Patron's Lamp—Joe restored them all.

So think of Joe when you visit All Hallows, for his was the major part of the work of making the monuments live there again.

The LORD'S PRAYER IN CHINOOK

Nesika papa klaksta mitlite kopa saghalie,
Our father who stayeth in the above.

Kloshe kopa nesika tumtum mika nem;
Good in our hearts [be] thy name;

Kloshe mika tyee kopa konaway tillicum;
Good thou chief among all people;

Kloshe mika tumtum kopa illahie.
Good thy will upon earth.

Kehkwa kopa saghalie.
As in the above.

Potlatch konaway sun nesika muckamuck.
Give every day our food.

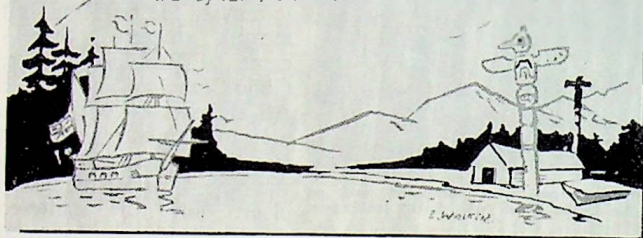
Spose nesika mamook masahchie,
If we do evil, [be]

Wake mika hyas solleks, pe spose
Not thou very angry, and if

Klaksta masahchie kopa nesika,
Anyone evil towards us,

Wake nesika solleks kopa klaska
Not we angry towards them

Mahsh siah kopa nesika konaway masahchie.
Send away far from us all evil.



From British Columbia, Canada, Ben Howell sends this interesting version of the Lord's Prayer together with a note that the language takes its name from the Chinook Tribe which formerly occupied the lands at the mouth of the Columbia River.

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Far Cry

overseas notes

GEOFF MARTIN



BRIDGEBUILDERS

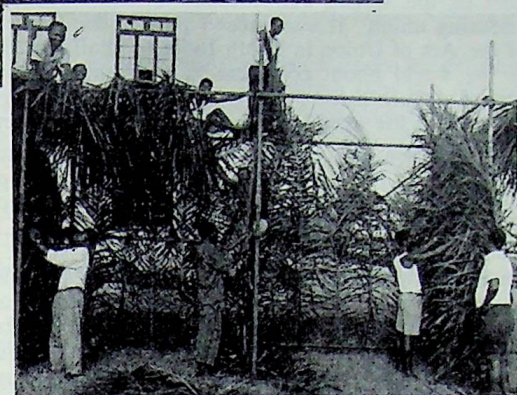
THOSE MEMBERS of Toc H whose journeyings on active service in World War II led them into Poperinge after the liberation may remember the team of ladies who ran the canteen set up in Talbot House.

During an overseas conference there in June the "Bridge-builders", as they were known, were invited to come together again at Talbot House, and to give our members a chance of meeting them.



The Bridgebuilders of Poperinge: Mlle. Rolande Blanckaert, Mme. Arlette Lahaye, Mme. Janne Lahaye, Mme. Yvonne Derynck, Mme. Marcelle Lahaye, Mme. Oreeel.

Being by now scattered, only six were able to come, but they will be known to a great many present-day pilgrims to Poperinge, and we are very glad to have the chance of reproducing in the JOURNAL a photograph taken at the time by Jack Martin, of Cape Town.



Members of the Lagos Mainland Branch cutting palms and erecting stands for the Red Cross Bazaar. There are two Branches in Lagos, one on the Mainland, and the parent Branch on the Island.

AN OVERSEAS BROADCAST

In September the Western Region of the B.B.C. asked the Area Headquarters at Bristol for the latest information about the Toc H Film Society operated by units in Trowbridge and Bristol; the team who really do the work have already been televised. This request for "refresher news" was to provide news from the Western Region to be broadcast in their Overseas programme. Perhaps, by this time, a number of members overseas may know all about Toc H in Trowbridge and Bristol, if they happened to be listening in at the appointed hour.

A Corporate Union

KENNETH SLACK

General Secretary, The British Council of Churches

OF MAKING MANY BOOKS on the Church of South India there would seem to be no end. It is natural, nevertheless, that there should be intense interest throughout the Churches of the world in the one area where the Churches having Bishops and the Churches of non-episcopal order have leapt over that barrier, seemingly impassable in every other part of the world, and actually achieved a corporate and enduring union. It was indeed part of the inspiring purpose of the Act of Union in South India to challenge the Churches of the world about contentment over their present disunity and to disturb those "who prefer Church union to remain as an item on the agenda of a long series of conferences".

In any case, this particular book* would require no special justification. It is the first substantial work on the Church of South India by an Indian. There have not been lacking books by distinguished missionary servants of that Church, like Bishop Lesslie Newbigin and Dr. Marcus Ward. There has been an amplitude of reports by distinguished visiting commissions. Here in Mr. Paul's book we have a first-hand account by an Indian Christian of what it has been like to live in this reunited Church and to watch its development.

Mr. Paul will need little introduction to readers of this JOURNAL, for he is, of course, Toc H Commissioner in India. To a yet wider circle in the Churches of the world he is known for his leadership within the World Council of Churches. He is a member of the Central and Executive Committees and Chairman of the Working Committee of the important Department on the Laity. His own distinguished public career has been outside the direct service of the Church, but he has always been deeply engaged in voluntary service. His life as a public servant took him to many parts of South India and therefore brought him into close contact with the several Churches which united to form the Church of South India. The high expectations which Mr. Paul's qualifications raise are in every sense fulfilled. The story of the first five years was told in Dr.

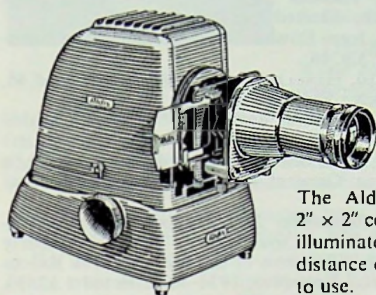
* *The First Decade: An account of the Church of South India*, Rajaiah D. Paul. (10s. 0d.)

Marcus Ward's volume, *The Pilgrim Church*. Now the story of those years is recapitulated and naturally the succeeding five years receive fuller treatment.

One striking result of this book being written by an Indian is that it is far more critical than Western observers have tended to be of this Church. There is something salutary in this, for there is a real danger that in idealising this brave young Church an element of the unreal should enter in. Mr. Paul is particularly critical of the quality of the presbyters, as the priests or ministers of that Church are called, and, with a somewhat characteristic Anglican self-criticism, is especially astringent on some aspects of the ex-Anglican parts of the Church and the reaction of other Anglican Churches to it.

Nevertheless, this spirit of realism only enhances the exciting story that Mr. Paul has to tell. It is plain that the Act of Union in 1947 did indeed usher in a new day for all the Christians belonging to the uniting Churches. There is no desire to go back to the comfortable ruts of denominationalism. There seems only to be wonder that other Churches are so reluctant to enter into the riches of each other's heritage.

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• With proud thanksgiving . . . •

BOAM.—On August 15, ARTHUR BOAM ('Skip'), aged 65, a member of Scunthorpe Branch. Elected 2.9.'33.

CAUSLEY.—On September 18, HENRY CAUSLEY, aged 65, a member of Kingsteignton Branch. Elected 31.3.'36.

COWLEY.—On August 6, CHARLES COWLEY, aged 84, a member of Western London Area General Members Branch. Elected 18.3.'35.

ELSE.—On September 5, JOHN WILLIAM ELSE, aged 58, a member of Swanscombe Branch. Elected 14.11.'49.

HALL.—On September 14, MAURICE METCALFE HALL, aged 44, a member of Walsden Branch. Elected 11.7.'57.

HALSALL.—On September 3, FRED HALSALL, a member of Sussex Area General Members Branch. Elected 1.4.'32.

HORNE.—On September 2, CECIL VICTOR HORNE, a member of Ramsgate Branch. Elected 18.12.'38.

LANE.—On September 20, STANLEY LANE, aged 78, a member of Ashby-de-la-Zouch Branch. Elected 10.4.'33.

MATTHEWS.—On September 4, drowned whilst on holiday, ERNEST GEORGE MATTHEWS, ('Lofty'), aged 55, a 'Brothers' House' Marksman, and the Pilot of Kennington Branch. Elected 21.5.'32.

MAYNARD.—On September 19, HUGH MAYNARD, aged 33, a former member of Enfield Branch. Elected 6.11.'47.

MUMMERY.—On August 30, ERNEST GEORGE MUMMERY, aged 59, a member of Dawlish Branch. Elected 1.10.'51.

PAGDIN.—On September 4, THOMAS HESLAM PAGDIN, aged 68, a member of Morecambe Branch. Elected 1.1.'40.

ROGERS.—On September 18, JOHN EDWARD ROGERS, aged 55, a member of Chirk Branch. Elected 5.9.'46.

SEABROOK.—On September 10, HAROLD EDWARD SEABROOK, aged 46, a member of Loughton Branch. Elected 19.12.'50.

SINGER.—On June 30, JOHN B. SINGER, aged 71, a member of Wakefield Branch. Elected 13.4.'48.

STONER.—On September 4, WILLIAM ALBERT STONER, aged 59, a member of the Western Area General Members Branch. Elected 26.9.'50.

SUTHERLAND GRAEME.—On September 26, PATRICK NEALE SUTHERLAND GRAEME, C.B.E., aged 81, Lord Lieutenant of Orkney; formerly of Harpenden Branch. 1925-38; Chairman of the Eastern Area Executive, 1930-38, and of the Central Executive, 1934-38. Elected 1.12.'25.

WARREN.—On August 11, CECIL ALBERT WARREN, aged 66, a member of St. Ives Branch. Elected 14.6.'37.

WATT.—On August 27, JAMES ARTHUR WATT ('Jock'), aged 72, a member of West Yorkshire Area General Members Branch. Elected 13.1.'37.

WOOLCOCK.—On July 8, JOHN BENJAMIN WOOLCOCK, aged 63, a member of Haverfordwest Branch. Elected 11.7.'35.

In Memoriam

ERNEST GEORGE MATTHEWS

'Lofty' Matthews lived for others. Full always of abounding energy, good works and good humour, his spare time activities covered a remarkably wide field of service. His prime love in Toc H was undoubtedly the Toc H London Male Voice Choir to which he gave unstinted and enthusiastic support. As a prominent member of the Choir—and, more particularly, as a leading character in its comedy team—he was well known and loved in Old People's Homes, institutions, hospitals and the like throughout Greater London.

'Lofty' was a true Christian and a good Churchman. Although living in South London and attending his local church, he never gave up contact with St Andrew's Southgate, the church of his earlier years. He was an accredited visitor to Wandsworth prison, and he kept in touch with many an ex-convict who had reason to be grateful for his friendship and advice. He was a keen supporter of the Church of England Children's Society. His interest extended also to the National Children's Homes and, at the other end of the scale, he worked hard and enthusiastically for both Lambeth and Southwark Old People's Welfare Associations.



'Lofty' Matthews

The Brothers' House was Lofty's home for nearly six years, until his untimely death. His contribution to the life of the family was no mean one. He was a Marksman in the true Toc H sense—a family man to whom the Honorary Warden naturally turned for advice and help. As Pilot of the Kennington Branch, Lofty led many men into full membership of Toc H.

At heart, Lofty was always a boy. He loved "dressing up" and entertaining others. Whether it was strumming on a wash-board in the Kennington Skiffle Group or throwing a mantle of impudence over a cloak of dignity in a house party sketch, he was full of fun and never lacking in resource.

Lofty was of the stuff that Toc H is made. To say he will be greatly missed is stating the obvious. In truth, his passing leaves a gap which will be filled; but never in quite the same way. Lofty was unique.

G.R.H.

House-to-House Collection

C. H. HOOPER

RAT-TAT went the door knocker, ding-dong went the door bell, and another Alexandra Rose house-to-house collection had commenced for the members of Knowle Branch.

Experiences were as varied as is usual on these occasions. The vast majority of folk give generously, quickly and cheerfully; but others there are who, for some reason or other, are not moulded in the normal pattern.

There was, for instance, the sadly crippled man who gave most generously after proudly showing the collector his back garden. He was proud because he tends his garden while seated on a chair. He digs, sows and garners all from the chair which he moves from place to place. To meet such a person and see such a well-kept garden makes one feel very humble.

Then there was the man who came to the door with a face which turns milk sour. "What do you want?" he says, scowling. He is told very politely. "Let's see your permit to collect" he replies. He is shown this, and then goes to his treasury and gives, very reluctantly, a halfpenny. "That's made the tin heavier" sighs the collector as he staggers on his way.

Stories could be told of milk boiling over when Mum is at the door, or of the baby getting in the whitewash while Dad answers the caller, or of children clamouring for Mum to buy a pretty flower from the man. Then there is the generosity of the very poor.

Doors were being knocked and when the collector had passed to other houses an old lady was seen walking slowly towards him. She beckoned and asked what he was collecting for. "I always buy a flag for that," she said, "so please come back home with me." Very, very slowly, she went to her home two doors away, down a dark and dismal passage, into a back cheerless room, and out of a Coronation mug of years ago, she took a copper coin and put it in the tin. The member was touched, so much so, that he gave the old lady a large silver coin from his

own pocket. He had spent five minutes with the kind old soul and had received one penny in his box.

What a difference between the miserable man's halfpenny and the sparkling uplifting gift of the old lady. Collections such as this, beyond helping to raise needed funds, can also help to make us very much richer in human understanding of local people. Why don't you try a collection from your Branch next year?



'THE LATEST NEWS'

We are indebted to M. Lietaert, of Bruges, for a copy of the Belgian newspaper "Het Laatste Nieuws" from which the above cutting is reproduced. It tells the reader how Toc H began at The Old House in Poperinge forty-three years ago this month, and also gives an outline of the Movement's subsequent development.

Training for Retirement

BRIAN DICKSON

THERE seems to be an idea about in some quarters that those who are nearing the retiring-age of sixty-five should be encouraged in the last twelve months of their service to take things easy in preparation for the years of leisure ahead of them. The idea seems to me a poor one, but I decided this summer that I would train for my own retirement next year by spending my last holiday on full pay rock-climbing in the Italian Dolomites.

Flying by night to Milan we went on by bus to Madonna di Campiglio and after spending one night there we walked up to the Rifugio Tuckett, and on the following day traversed the magnificent path over to the Rif. Padrotti from which we climbed the Cima Tosa, the highest peak in the Brenta group. We walked over to the Agostini hut the same evening and next day returned to Madonna di Campiglio via the Rif. 12 Apostoli—a grand eight-hour walk through some of the finest scenery in the Brenta Alps.

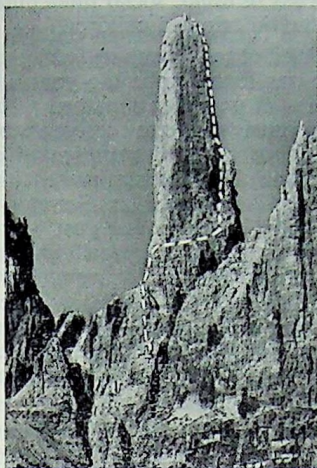
Feeling extremely fit after this limber-up, we went off by car to the Ontler Group to climb Cevedale, a 12,000 ft. snow-peak which we had missed the previous year. The knife-edge snow ridge between the two summits is the most interesting part of the climb and it took us twenty-five minutes in each direction.

Bank Holiday jaunt

After a short visit to the Adamello Group, where we spent a night at the fine new Mandrone Hut, we returned to the Brenta, and engaging Gilio Alimonta, a well-known guide in Madonna, we walked up to the Rifugio Brentei with the Campanile Basso in mind for the following day. This isolated monolith, over 9,000 ft. above sea-level and first ascended in 1898, provides 1,100 ft. of superb rock-climbing of grade IV standard, and it had been an ambition of ours for several years. Looking unclimbable from a distance it proved, of course, far more inviting on closer acquaintance, and Bill Strath and I enjoyed immensely every minute of our three-and-a-half hour ascent. On the summit we all shook hands,

remembering that it was August Bank Holiday, but little knowing that on the same day the "Nautilus" was passing under the North Pole. I asked Gilio what was the oldest client he had led up the Campanile before, and his reply was an elderly gent of fifty-nine! On the strength of this I bought a new pair of climbing-boots for my retirement.

We enjoyed most of the two-and-three-quarter hours taken in coming down. The descent includes seven *abseils* in which



Route taken by Brian and his companions in the ascent of the Campanile Basso.

the climber slides down a double rope passed between his legs and over one shoulder. The use of a carabineer-sling lessens somewhat the discomfort of roping down in this way.

On the following day Gilio raised the standard on us, and led us up the Via Kiene route on Castelletto Inferiore. The first "pitch" of this—a 100 ft. chimney of grade V standard—did scare Bill and me a bit as we waited for our guide to work his way up, particularly as he was held up by a young Italian climbing above him who was finding it hard going and had stuck half way. However we managed to follow each in his turn, without help on the

rope from Gilio, who sang Italian ballads on each stance until we had done our stuff. To our relief the rest of this 900 ft. rock-face was easier, and we enjoyed it all.

The rest of our three weeks holiday in perfect weather included much minestrone, vino rosso and espresso, a most enjoyable three hour steamer trip on Lake Garda and a cold bath in our hotel at Milan at 2 a.m. prior to flying home across the Alps at dawn, in time for a second breakfast at Nag's Head Cottage.

All great fun. Not everybody's taste, perhaps, but far safer than the main roads!

Joint Service Unit

JOE PARSONS

IN BRISTOL, back in 1945, a Committee was formed to run a garden fête and afterwards to promote social activities between local Toc H Branches and the Women's Association. Following these early efforts other social gatherings were held with two purposes in mind, social intercourse and the raising of funds to entertain crippled children.

At first, the Committee consisted of two members from each Branch in the District but this was found to be too unwieldy and finally became unworkable. It was then renamed "The Joint Service Unit" and today consists of one representative from each of the two Toc H Districts, three representatives from the Women's Association, one of whom is at present the Chairman, and myself, a general member, as Secretary/Treasurer. We normally meet half-a-dozen times a year which we usually find sufficient. This arrangement has been found the most satisfactory and we are now responsible for running the Library Service once a week (providing some 1,200 volumes, maintaining supply and cataloguing and marking books) at the Homœopathic Hospital and a Trolley Service twice a week selling such things as stationery, toilet requisites, sweets and stamps.

These services are run continuously by a team of members numbering forty all told, drawn mainly from members of the Women's Association, Toc H Branches and a few 'outside' friends, and we have a waiting list of folk anxious to help us in these activities.

By arrangement with the Guild of Help of the Hospital who assisted us financially in the early stages of the hospital development, and who have members representing Toc H and the Women's Association on their Executive Committee, all profit from sales of goods is devoted to maintaining the Library and entertaining old folk in Bristol.

We are also on excellent terms with the Board of Governors of the Hospital who together with the patients greatly appreciate our efforts. We also assist the Guild of Help with their annual garden party to raise funds which they spend on the staff and patients in providing items not covered by the Health service.

It is essential to have someone in charge having some knowledge of bookkeeping, who is able to visit the hospital regularly at least once a week to collect monies, check stocks and replenish them, the cash float and stamps. The Library and Trolley Service could be run as two separate organisations if required by two individual members of the committee.

This financial year, so far, we have given seventy-eight old folk a parcel at Christmas, entertained thirty at the Bristol Amateur Operatic Society's performance of *King's Rhapsody* followed by tea, another similar party were recently entertained at the Zoological Gardens, being brought from their homes and taken back, in private cars. We have a coach trip with tea planned for another party and have just held another successful social gathering of all our helpers who otherwise seldom meet together. We have also provided books for a small library for the District Nurses' hostel, and an old people's club.

In an effort to increase our income one member of the Committee raised £6 by a series of "Coffee Mornings" and we have a block booking of seats at the Bristol Old Vic Theatre, from which we benefit from 10 per cent. reduction on season tickets. We have also in previous years given a number of play readings to the blind and Old People's Homes, and organised rambles and a Quiz Contest among the various Branches.

In our small way we have entertained well over a thousand old folk, many of whom would never go out at all if we did not help them, for we endeavour to concentrate on those who are lonely and alone, as those living in Almshouses and Homes have quite a lot done for them as a rule.

The District Nursing Association, The Toc H Film Unit and the Old Peoples Welfare Association help us with names and addresses of suitable recipients and the appreciation shown by the old folk is overwhelming.



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CARD 'B'—"His first day", an appealing picture of a new patient at Botha's Hill Toc H T.B. Settlement, starting point of this year's World Chain of Light. Size $4\frac{1}{2}" \times 5\frac{1}{2}"$ complete with envelopes, 5s. 6d. per dozen, post free.



CARD 'C'—A striking Nativity design by Ian Chelu, in amber, black and white. Size $3\frac{1}{2}" \times 5\frac{3}{4}"$, complete with envelopes, 5s. 6d. per dozen, post free.

Toc H Diaries

Next year's Diary is now ready. Indispensable to members, with much useful information, including sixteen pages of coloured maps, the price remains at the same level as current edition: 4s. 0d., or fitted with pencil, 4s. 6d., post free.

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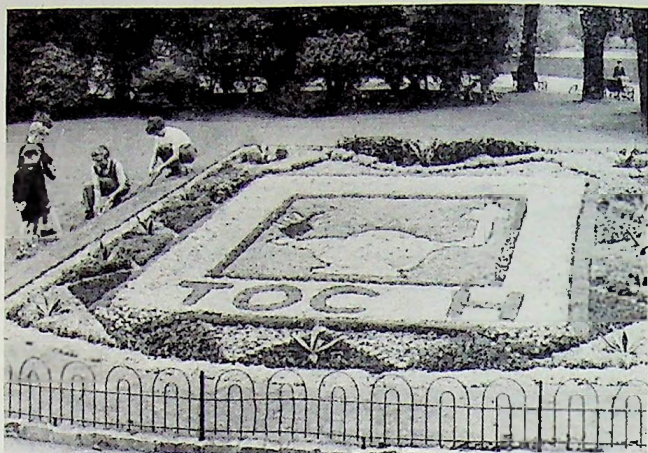
WESTERN—One result of members of Bath International Club visiting **Keynsham** Branch during "People to People" Week is that **Toc H** in Bath District have taken up the job of enlisting public support to find the Club permanent premises for their sixty to eighty members. **Saltford** group held their inaugural meeting last month and plans have been made to meet local needs, apart from endeavouring to integrate three separate types of communities in this one small place. **Shirehampton** recently celebrated their Twenty-first birthday. "Mental Health" is the theme this year of the **University of Bristol Toc H Lunch Circle**. The Circle Correspondent is Roger Clare, Wills Hall. Bristol 9, who will be glad to contact student members from other parts. **Sherston** helped by **Bath** and **Twerton** again this year entertained seventy physically handicapped folk, members of the Gloucestershire Invalid Tricycle Association. **Street** Branch's "Petticoat Lane", an annual event, took place on October 4 with its usual uproarious success. **Somerton** are holding a special Guest-night on November 7, when the Bishop of Taunton will be the Speaker. Sponsored by **Weston-super-Mare**, the F.O.M.A.P. (Friends of Mentally Afflicted People) gave the children of Yatton Hall Mental Home an outing followed by tea, while men and women members of **Milton** Branches combined on two occasions to help crippled patients on outings from Birmingham. **B. HEATHCOTE.**

W. LONDON—The Garden Party held by **Putney** in the grounds of **Mark XX** was opened with a colour-hoisting ceremony by the 5th Putney Sea Scouts, who also demonstrated a rescue by breeches-buoy. **Wimbledon** had some good news for the hundreds of house-bound old folk they started entertaining again last month. A badly-needed new projector has been generously given by the trustees of an estate, and some splendid films already booked for showing. The new projector represents a gift of £300. Last season, from September to April, nearly six thousand old folk were entertained. **Harrow** have provided a week's holiday at Brighton for eleven children, and under this scheme which the Branch has been operating since 1949, altogether some 130 needy children have been given a seaside holiday. Local young people are planning to join forces with **Barnes** in helping elderly folk. The Branch will find the jobs and it is planned to draw up a register of young people willing to assist, and specifying the type of jobs they can best do. Their out-of-pocket expenses will be met from a special fund. Members at **Fulham** were delighted by a brief visit from Tubby on September 23. He stayed long enough to have a 'cuppa' and to take 'Light', with some personal recollections of the Van Den Bergh family, to one of whom the Fulham Lamp is dedicated.

MAYNE ELSON.

E. LONDON—Barkingside Branch will celebrate their twenty-first birthday on November 8, when they look forward to a great reunion with old members and friends. To the many forms of service which they already give in their neighbourhood, the Branch has undertaken, at the request of the Local Authority which is unable to supply transport, to convey a badly crippled boy to evening classes so that he can study for the G.C.E. **South-East Essex** District are extending their broadcasting service and arrangements are going forward for a new land-line to all the hospitals in Southend.

JIM GREEN.



Ilford Pictorial

This floral carpet, near the main entrance to Valentines Park, Ilford, showing the Toc H Lamp, attracted considerable attention this summer. The Borough Superintendent of Parks provided a fine interpretation of Ron Reader's design and the gardeners maintained it in first class order.

SCOTLAND—Selkirk Branch have completed their fifth move, the latest rooms being the best yet. With gifts from many sources the place was shining bright for the House-warming Party held on September 24. After the business of photographing the rogues, tea was served and a good time had by all. Not only do the Builders help to build Toc H in this part of the world, they also entertain; one of them sang with gusto "*The Lum Hat Wantin' A Croon*". **Dunfermline** Branch are busy preparing for their Twenty-first birthday, but getting involved in "People to People" Week gave priority to entertaining folk from other nations. It is surprising to find so many strangers in a town the size of Dunfermline. **Moray and Nairn** District Team are doing a Social Survey of their area, with the object of seeing the place of the Branch in the district. It is hoped that a greater impact will be made by the members on the community.

JOHNNIE MACMILLAN.

BEDS. & HERTS.—Preliminary moves are being made towards extension at **Knebworth** and **Woolmer Green** (Contact: Bob Christie, 90 Marymead Drive, Stevenage). When **Stevenage** and **Hitchin** arranged an outing for the aged, a series of punctures proved an un-planned source of merriment to the old people. **Wafford** District took fifty old people for an outing to Beaconsfield where the local Branch met them and arranged tea. **Stopsley** group has paid visits to the Cheshire Home at Amptill to extend friendship to the invalid residents. **St. Albans** are organising a public meeting to launch a local Belra committee. A garden party, held in grounds kindly lent by Capt. Liddell Hart, was opened by Aidan Crawley and resulted in £260 being raised towards **Wolverton's** work for the sick and elderly. When **Bedford** organised a concert for the Family Purse in the Civic Theatre, **Wellingborough** Toe H Male Voice Choir and friends provided first-class entertainment.

FRANK R. FIGG.



Market Harborough Advertiser

Kibworth Branch receiving their Lamp from Harry Gee, East Midlands H.A.C., supported by Colin Stevenson, Area Secretary, and members from Market Harborough and Great Bowden.

SOUTH WESTERN—The last two months have been busy ones for **Totnes** Branch. An appeal for help in re-decorating was received from the elderly congregation of a nearby village church, and the Branch responded with a will. All sorts of interesting mechanical and electrical devices appeared (used for completely unauthorised purposes!) and the job was completed in record time. In the midst of all this the Branch was asked by the local Carnival Committee to take charge of the Carnival Barbecue, and accordingly the lads downed brushes and turned ram-roasters! Both jobs made the Branch sweat! A recent Training Day in **Wivelshire** District was very successful in spite of numbers not being as great as had been hoped. Branch officers learned something more of the approach to their jobs and the Conference really came to life during the periods of discussion. Among the usual crop of outings around the Area, that organised by **Winsham** group for elderly people stands out. The good folk were taken to **Seaton** where the local Branch laid on tea and entertainment and a great time was had by all. The group at **Chudleigh** continues to grow and now has its Rushlight and a home of its own. The Secretary is R. Mitchell, 33 Clifford Street, Chudleigh, Devon.

GILBERT FRANCIS.

S. & S.E. LONDON—Streatham organised a visit to Greenwich in August for 12 patients from the British Home & Hospital for Incurables by coach provided by the St. George's Nursing Society. The party was shown round the Royal Naval College, the Maritime Museum and the "Cutty Sark". **Green Street Green** have published a booklet to be distributed free of charge in new housing areas in the neighbourhood, giving information about local facilities and activities.



David Housden

When Kennington members redecorated an old age pensioner's two-roomed flat, the "Lambeth Boro News" commented: "The goodwill commandos of Toc H have created a dream home for the aged folk."

Charlton took twenty-five physically handicapped people to Worthing this summer and with the assistance of the local Branch there, gave them a happy (and fine!) day at the sea. With the co-operation of the Salvation Army, **Hayes, Kent** held their annual Children's Outing this summer, when they brought twenty-five children from poor districts at Deptford for fun on Hayes Common. **John Callf** was the speaker at a Guest-night arranged by **Spring Park District** at Palace Green, Addington on September 29. **Dover Road District** held a Sunday afternoon Conference in September when some twenty-five men and women members heard **Dudley Herring** speak on "The Relevance of Toc H Today". **Pickhurst Green** provide a regular monthly entertainment for the old people living at Durham House, Bromley. At a special meeting held on September 30, the new Branch at **Chislehurst** was presented with its Lamp by **Harry Gell**. South and S.E. London Areas are holding a **Joint Festival** on Saturday, December 6, at Bromley, Kent. The preacher at the Festival Service will be the Rev. **Ken Bloxham**, formerly on the staff of Toc H. and the Administrator, **John Callf**, will speak during the Festival Evening. **SAM EVANS.**

LONDON—An Inter-Mark Table Tennis Competition is now under way in London. During the winter months a team of four Marksmen will be battling for the Peter Jackson Brown Cup which will be presented at the end of the season to the Mark at the top of the League.

BRIAN KINGSLEY-DAVIES.



Hednesford Courier
Members of local Youth Clubs being trained as film projectionists as part of the youth's photographic and ciné club activities organised by Hednesford Branch.

WEST MIDLANDS—On a September evening a local furniture store's van, organised by **Leamington**, transported twenty-six patients in wheel and spinal chairs from the Royal Midland Counties Home to the Jephson Gardens; members, members' wives, the Holy Trinity Scout Troop (S.M. Mr. Dee) and co-opted helpers loaded, unloaded and pushed the patients around the gardens to see the "Lights", a local feature. A hearty greeting is given to the new Branch at **Wylde Green**. **Marston Green** group has been launched and we wish them well. Do advise 'Tufty' Birch, 91 Coleshill Road, Marston Green if you know of any likely contacts in this district. Preliminary meetings are being held to start a group at **Dosthill**, Nr. Tamworth. The Rev. Jack Hobbs of the Vicarage, Dosthill, a member, is putting stout efforts into this job and would welcome details of any nearby contacts.

NOEL CARTWRIGHT.

NORTHERN—Our Area Rally and Week-end was held on September 13-14. The Mayor and Mayoress of Durham welcomed guests at the Town Hall for the Family Gathering at which Iain Fraser and Mrs. Jan Sheppard were the speakers. The Rally Service at the Old Elvet Methodist Church was conducted by the Rev. David Marsden, Presbyterian Minister at Stanley, Co. Durham. For those who stayed over on the Sunday there were two sessions, one for men led by Iain on "Service" and the other for women, led by Jan, on "Christian Unity".

In connection with "People to People" Week, **Darlington** Branch called a meeting of local organisations and **Newcastle-upon-Tyne** Branch had a visit from Mr. Fassal, who acts as Welfare Officer for his fellow-countrymen from Pakistan. At **West Hartlepool** the men's and women's Branches combined to hold a Guest-night and invited overseas-folk to meet the Mayor and other friends present.

When **Cleveland** District held their annual "Blind Outing" four coaches took the party of 150 to Whitby and back to Staithes for tea



This float, planned by members of Cardiff District, and complete with Branch Banners, took part in the Penarth Carnival, held in connection with the Festival of Wales.

and a social evening at the Youth Fellowship Camp, by kind permission of the Holiday Fellowship. Whitby District Council provided free parking facilities and offered any other help required. The men's and women's Branches combined to make this a first-class day's outing.

CHARLES YOUNG.

NOTTS. & DERBY.—September 20 was a big day for **Arnold & Woodthorpe** Branch when their new H.Q.—“all their own work”—was formally opened by the Chairman of the local U.D.C. The room, completed that very morning, looking most spick-and-span. A meeting is to be held on **Clifton Estate** near Nottingham, from which it is hoped a group will result. Three members from **Stapleford** Branch who had responded to an appeal to clear an old lady's garden were themselves reprimanded by the local Council for failing to keep their own gardens tidy! An echo from the recent **Derby Boys' Camp** came when Reg. Thorley, one of the Camp Chiefs, who is also a Probation Officer, was cheerfully greeted in Court by a young camper, there by necessity, “Hullo, ‘Uncle’ Reg.” Further embarrassment came when Reg. was asked by the Clerk if the youth was a relation! **Derby** Branch took a party of disabled folk to **Bridlington** where they received ready help from the local Branch. **Derby** District are planning an Autumn Fair for November 22 and another successful one was held at **Bolsover** in September. This Branch recently spent an evening listening to a reading of J. B. Phillips' translation of St. Mark's Gospel, and count it one of their most impressive Branch meetings. **Ashfield** District invited the rest of the Area to a gathering at **Mansfield** on October 15 at which Colin Stevenson was the speaker. **Dunstable** members visited Nottingham and were looked after by **Hucknall** Branch.

LES WHEATLEY.

E. & W. YORKSHIRE—Goole Branch who run a request programme at the local hospital recently had a collection of seventy records presented to them for use on this job. Congratulations to **Melbourne** on becoming recognised as a group. **Hull** are working on a list of names from which they have hopes of starting a group in the **Newington** district. Tubby visited **Bridlington** on October 9, to receive the deeds of "The Rocket House", their meeting place. The members have raised £1,100 in the last three years to pay for this building. Tubby went on from there to a meeting in **Leeds** on the Friday and one held in **Huddersfield** on the Saturday. The Yorkshire Conference that takes place at **Bridlington** on November 1-2 already has 120 men and women booked to come and more are expected. A list of likely contacts in **Darfield**, near **Barnsley**, has been got together and an exploratory meeting is being planned. **JOHN MADDOCK.**

EAST ANGLIA—Branch reports at September District Team meetings revealed that Toc H Branches in the Area had given or been actively concerned in outings for nearly three thousand old people during the months of July and August. **Clacton-on-Sea** Branch, which so often helps with local arrangements for outings to their town, took members of **Clacton Blind Clubs** on an outing to **Walton**. Proceeds from the **Brightlingsea Town Carnival** were given to **Brightlingsea** Branch for use in connection with welfare work for old people and other charitable work in the town. **Sudbury** Branch has been busy gathering the harvest from an allotment they have rented and planted to supply old people with fresh vegetables. The Branch members have also laid a concrete path to enable a disabled person to use the wheel-chair which was recently supplied to her. A Summer Fête arranged by **Mildenhall** Branch raised £95 for an Old Folk's Party at Christmas and the Family Purse, and one organised by **Beck Row** Branch added £60 to their Playing Field Fund. **Saffron Walden** Branch continue to find good use for their tape-recorder. Recently they took it to the Over-60's Club where many of the fifty members present sung, recited and played their parts and were greatly surprised—and amused—to hear it all played back to them. Congratulations to **Mundesley** (Bure Valley District) and to **Lakenheath** (West Suffolk District) who have recently been granted Branch status.

REG SMITH.

EAST MIDLANDS—**Ivanhoe** District last month held the fourth of a series of discussions on "Human Relations in Industry", inspired by Mr. George Goyder's address to the Central Council. Speakers have included a former Shop Steward, an Employer, a Trade Unionist from the mining industry and a Trade Union official. Acting for the District Team, **Ashby-de-la-Zouch** members are actively engaged in reviving **Blackfordby**. In September, the Manager of the Midland Hotel, **Ashby**, organised the annual Harvest Festival on behalf of the Branch, their Padre conducted a short Service after which the display of produce was sold to the customers, realising about £25 for the Old People's New Year tea and entertainment. Both men's and women's Branches at **Ashby** also help in many ways at the **Cheshire Home** at **Staunton Harold** and at irregular intervals hold their meetings at the Home.

TOM PEARSON.

OXFORD & THAMES VALLEY—At the first Birthday Guest-night of Beaconsfield, held in September. John Callf spoke on the work of a Toc H staff man. Wallingford have moved into their new home at 16 Thames Street, Wallingford, where the new Area Secretary, Tim Tobias, the Desborough District Team and the H.A.C., attended the house-warming. Uxbridge are in contact with the R.A.F. station and are hopeful of extension. Fred Jeffs. Stratton Audley, Bicester, is the new Secretary of Bicester District Team. An Area Jobmasters' Conference was held last month at Abingdon, with Bob Purdy and Harry Gell as speakers. High Wycombe members are concerning themselves with the transport of sufferers from infantile paralysis. JOHN WILSON.

N. LONDON—Members from Barnet have been busy making pathways through a jungle of weeds so that fruit could be picked in the garden of Rosa Morrison House, the local branch of a London hospital. The fruit would otherwise have been wasted and the hospital people have much appreciated this service. Nine new members have recently been initiated in the joint group at Devonshire Hill—five men and four women. Kentish Town this year provided thirty-three old people with a week's holiday at Brighton. The party was seen off and received back by the Mayor of St. Pancras, who is keenly interested in Old People's Welfare. On January 10 the Branch are holding a dance at St. Pancras Town Hall for this work.

MAYNE ELSON.



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ALL HALLOWS SALE OF WORK—Saturday, December 6. Please post a gift to be sold, without unwrapping, for a shilling on the Parcel Post Stall, to the Sale of Work Committee, All Hallows-by-the-Tower, Byward St., London, E.C.3.

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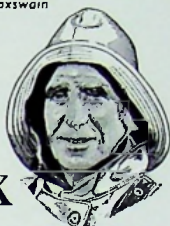
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